

TWO REPORTS ON THE LEAKY STEAMER.

Increasing the Wonder That the Whiting Was Given a Permit.

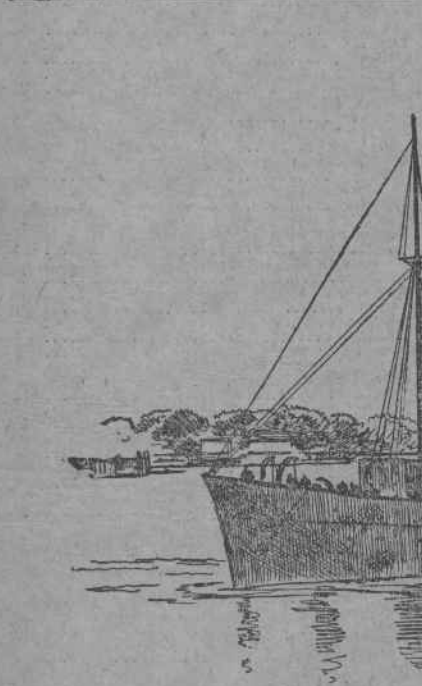
Copy of Fairchild's Report More Extensive Than the One Given Out.

In the Unabridged One He Said There Was Not Sound Wood Enough to Fasten Planking.

WHERE WAS THE CHANGE MADE?

Fighting the Inrush of Water Through Her Seams, the Craft Proceeds Slowly to Perth Amboy, but Is Not Docked.

Captain Starbuck, the supervising steamboat inspector, returned to this city yesterday, but would say nothing to clear up the mystery about how the owner of the unseaworthy Catherine Whiting had been able to get a license for her. He would not show any records outside of the official certificate, which is merely a record of measurements and similar facts.



"You can get everything at Washington," he said, said Captain Fairchild, the inspector who granted the license, made a similar statement.

It seems, however, that the reports sent to Washington have, in some mysterious way, been abridged, either here or in transit. This conclusion is based on a comparison of the copy of Captain Fairchild's report given out at the office of Inspector-General Dumont, and a copy of Fairchild's report made immediately after he prepared it. Captain Fairchild did not know the latter copy was made. Here are the two reports:

COPY OF FAIRCHILD'S REPORT.

Sept. 10, 1896.

I have this day made a special examination of the steamship Catherine Whiting as she lay at the pier foot of Twenty-sixth street, and lay about at foot of South Brooklyn, N. Y. Twenty-sixth street.

I found a large number of timbers badly decayed, more especially on the port side, so that considerable space on the port side, about twenty feet, should be opened and stripped of all decayed timbers and planking, where there is not sound wood enough to properly fasten the outside planking.

There is some decayed ceiling in lower hold, especially forward on the port side, where clamps are entirely rotten under one hanging knee, together with the ends of the deck beams at the same place.

Main deck is not in good condition, being more or less decayed in places.

The vessel being about the dock and outside planking is sheathed with wood and iron, I could not make a thorough examination as I wished, but saw enough to be satisfied that the vessel is not in safe and seaworthy condition for outside work.

Would Need Reckless Sailors.

It will be noticed that Captain Fairchild's first impression of the boat was that she did not have sound wood enough to properly fasten the outside planking.

Every old salt knows that if this was correct the sailor who would venture to see the Whiting would have the tamerity to try sailing across the Atlantic in a washerwoman's tub.

When Captain Fairchild was asked for his correct report, he said he didn't have a copy in the office.

"Don't you keep a copy?" he was asked.

"No, everything is sent to Washington," he replied. "As near as I can remember, however, the report as published from Washington was correct."

"Then, if that was correct," Captain Fairchild was asked, "will you not now, in view of the fact that the Whiting is sprung a leak, admit that she was not worth a license?"

"Every one knows," he replied, "that a vessel that has not up a year or more is liable to spring a leak when she is loaded. That she does so does not signify anything."

Captain Starbuck, the supervising inspector of this district, said:

"My attention is called to the Whiting by the owner. He came to me and explained that she had been condemned, and thought she should not have been. I told him up to Captain Fairchild, and told Mr. Fairchild to make an inspection himself. He did so, and reported that the Whiting could be licensed to navigate the harbor and bay of New York so long as she did not carry outside freight or passengers. If she leaves the harbor she must go to tow. If she is taken in tow to Norfolk I suppose that the inspectors there will increase the license issued here so that the Whiting will be allowed to navigate Chesapeake Bay."

"I wish to say," added Captain Starbuck, "that the criticisms that the Whiting is not fit for making her reports public are unjustified. He is not allowed by the regulations to do so, and even if the reports

were here now I would not let you see them."

Still in Hard Luck.

The Catherine Whiting, which went to sea with a Brooklyn inspector's permit, although condemned by Inspector Hand, and which sprang a leak at Eaton's Point, L. I., Friday, appeared in front of Hugh Ramsay's dry dock at Perth Amboy, yesterday. The Whiting was attached to a barge derrick, which was using its pumps. "The leak is under the sheathing," said Captain Bertling. "It must be fixed up at once."

The foreman replied that there was no room in Ramsay's yard, and so Captain Bertling applied to the Perth Amboy Dry Dock Company. There was no room there, either, and the Catherine Whiting, with the barge derrick attachment and pumps at work, left Perth Amboy at 4 o'clock. Captain Bertling related to a questioner that Rankin that he had no idea of where he would go.

GIVES UP HER CHILDREN.

Divorced Woman Returns Them to Their Father Because New Husband Won't Support Them.

By the terms of a divorce granted to Mrs. Minnie H. Holmes on March 9, 1894, from Charles S. Holmes, the woman was granted the custody of the children, two boys now aged eight and twelve years, and \$40 a month permanent alimony.

Mrs. Holmes afterward married James T. Rogers, of Binghamton, N. Y., who has refused to support the two children. In the Supreme Court yesterday Mrs. Rogers asked that Holmes be awarded the custody of the children and consented to release him from all claims for alimony that she had against him.

An affidavit was submitted by Holmes' lawyer stating that Thomas S. Holmes, the brother of the defendant, had agreed to aid the father in taking care of the children.

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BLACKMAIL CHARGED AGAINST THE POLICE.

Mrs. Caroline Drew Says Officer McGuire Worked Hard to Entrap Her.

Entered Her House in Disguise and Induced Her to Get Liquor for Him.

After It Had Been Sent Out For as a Favor He Promptly Caused Her Arrest.

TALKED ABOUT FIXING THE CASE.

She Is Acquitted by the Jury and the Policeman Is Rebuked in Court for Making Signs to a Witness.

Mrs. Caroline Drew, who has a boarding house at No. 119 West Fifteenth street, was put on trial yesterday, Part II, General Sessions, charged with violating the excise law. The defense tried to prove Mrs. Drew was the victim of a policeman's blackmailing scheme. Policeman Thomas

Barber's sons, coal dealers at No. 377 Water street, testified that he had known Mrs. Drew for sixteen years, and regarded her as respectable.

Cecil M. Marks, bookkeeper for Wechsler & Bruno, Oscar Weidenhold, electrician, at No. 41 Dey street, and John Turnbull, who had lived next door to Mrs. Drew for fifteen years, testified in Mrs. Drew's behalf.

Ethel Mulvihill, who is known as Rosa Farr, said she lived with her common-law husband at No. 228 West Thirty-seventh street, and admitted that her husband had charged at Police Headquarters that Policeman McGuire had alienated her affections.

Counsel Wall interrupted her testimony, and pointing to Policeman McGuire, said: "If you don't quit making signs to that woman I'll have you put out of the court room."

"If you can do it, do it!" shouted Policeman McGuire.

Judge McMahon rapped for order, and the jury agreed on a verdict of acquittal.

FELL IN LOVE WITH A MODEL.

Now the Wife of Cloak Manufacturer Guentsche Is Likely to Obtain a Divorce.

Reference George C. Austin reported to the Supreme Court yesterday in favor of granting a divorce to Nettie Guentsche from Herman Guentsche, and awarded her \$30 a week alimony. They were married three years ago. She was a tailoress and her husband a salesman in a Broadway cloak house. He joined a partnership eighteen months ago with a man named Thompson, to manufacture cloaks.

Mrs. Guentsche says her husband fell in love with Mabel Nell, a pretty girl employed by the firm as a model. Mrs. Guentsche says her former husband makes \$10,000 a year.

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Axminster Carpets

At 90c. per yard.

Best French, English and American Wiltons

At \$1.50 per yard.

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What we do and how we do it," is the title of our Fall book, now ready.

Not a mere price list, but a little book worthy the reading of any man, young or old, when clothes have to be considered; a lesson to mothers on how to dress their boys.

Illustrated from title page to index.

If you want it, your name and address is all that's needed.

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Graduate of Harvard Medical College, class 1884

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OCULISTS. Prescriptions for glasses filled. FOX & STENDICKE, 247 Broadway, below 283 st.

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